

Please amend claim 6 to read as follows:

3' 6. (Three times Amended) Isolated extracellular domain RTD polypeptide comprising (a) amino acid residues 56 to 212 of Fig. 1A (SEQ ID NO:1); or (b) a fragment of the sequence of amino acid residues 56 to 212 of Fig. 1A (SEQ ID NO:1), wherein said fragment binds Apo-2 ligand or inhibits Apo-2 ligand induced apoptosis in a mammalian cell.

7. (Once Amended) The extracellular domain polypeptide of claim 6 comprising amino acid residues 1 to 212 of Fig. 1A (SEQ ID NO:1).

8. (Once Amended) The isolated extracellular domain RTD polypeptide of claim 6 comprising amino acid residues 99 to 139 of Fig. 1A (SEQ ID NO:1).

9. (Once Amended) The extracellular domain polypeptide of claim 8 further comprising amino acid residues 141 to 180 of Fig. 1A (SEQ ID NO:1).

10. (Twice Amended) A chimeric molecule comprising the RTD polypeptide of claim 1 or claim 6 fused to a heterologous polypeptide.

11. (Twice Amended) The chimeric molecule of claim 10 wherein said RTD polypeptide comprises an extracellular domain of claim 6 comprising amino acid residues 56 to 212 of Fig. 1A (SEQ ID NO:1).

12. (Once Amended) The chimeric molecule of claim 10 wherein said heterologous polypeptide is an epitope tag.

13. (Once Amended) The chimeric molecule of claim 10 wherein said heterologous polypeptide is an immunoglobulin.

14. (Once Amended) The chimeric molecule of claim 13 wherein said immunoglobulin is an IgG.

29. (Once Amended) A composition comprising the RTD polypeptide of

claim 1 or claim 6 and a carrier.

34. (Twice Amended) An article of manufacture, comprising a container and a composition contained within said container, wherein the composition includes a carrier and the RTD polypeptide of claim 1 or claim 6.

35. (Once Amended) The article of manufacture of claim 34 further comprising instructions for using the RTD polypeptide.

38. (As filed) The isolated RTD polypeptide of claim 4 consisting of amino acid residues 1 to 386 of Fig. 1A (SEQ ID NO:1).

39. (As filed) The isolated RTD polypeptide of claim 5 consisting of amino acid residues 56 to 386 of Fig. 1A (SEQ ID NO:1).

Please amend claim 40 to read as follows:

40. (Twice Amended) Isolated nucleic acid comprising a polynucleotide encoding a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of:

6
12
a) a polypeptide ^{consisting of} ~~comprising~~ amino acid residues 1 to 386 of Fig. 1A (SEQ ID NO:1);

b) a polypeptide ^{consisting of} ~~comprising~~ amino acid residues 56 to 212 of Fig. 1A (SEQ ID NO:1); and

c) a fragment of the polypeptide of (a) or (b), wherein said fragment binds Apo-2 ligand.

41. (Once Amended) The nucleic acid of claim 40 wherein said polynucleotide encodes RTD polypeptide comprising amino acid residues 1 to 386 of Fig. 1A (SEQ ID NO:1).

42. (As filed) A vector comprising the nucleic acid of claim 40.

43. (As filed) The vector of claim 42 operably linked to control sequences recognized by a host cell transformed with the vector.

44. (As filed) A host cell comprising the vector of claim 42.

45. (Once Amended) The host cell of claim 44 which is a CHO cell.

46. (Once Amended) The host cell of claim 44 which is a yeast cell.

47. (Once Amended) The host cell of claim 44 which is *E. coli*.

Please amend claim 48 to read as follows:

43 48. (Twice Amended) A process of producing RTD polypeptide comprising culturing the host cell of claim 44, wherein said nucleic acid comprised by said vector is expressed to produce RTD polypeptide.

49. (Once Amended) The nucleic acid of claim 40 wherein said encoded RTD polypeptide has at least 90% amino acid sequence identity with the RTD polypeptide comprising amino acid residues 1 to 386 of Fig. 1A (SEQ ID NO:1).

50. (Once Amended) The nucleic acid of claim 49 wherein said encoded RTD polypeptide has at least 95% amino acid sequence identity with the RTD polypeptide comprising amino acid residues 1 to 386 of Fig. 1A (SEQ ID NO:1).

51. (Once Amended) The nucleic acid of claim 40 wherein said polynucleotide comprises the nucleotide coding region shown in SEQ ID NO:2.

52. (As filed) A vector comprising the nucleic acid of claim 41.

53. (As filed) The vector of claim 52 operably linked to control sequences recognized by a host cell transformed with the vector.

54. (As filed) A host cell comprising the vector of claim 52.

55. (Once Amended) The host cell of claim 54 which is a CHO cell.

56. (Once Amended) The host cell of claim 54 which is a yeast cell.

57. (Once Amended) The host cell of claim 54 which is *E. coli*.

Please amend claim 58 to read as follows:

34 58. (Twice Amended) A process of producing RTD polypeptide comprising culturing the host cell of claim 54, wherein said nucleic acid comprised by said vector is expressed to produce RTD polypeptide.